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MINERALS PROGRAM
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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

June 24, 1991

Mr. Ed King
Jumbo Mining Co.
6305 Fern Spring Drive
Austin, TX 78730

RE: Ground Water Discharge Permit for New
Leach Pad and Existing Contamination

Dear Mr. King:

On June 13, 1991 we received a conceptual design report for Jumbo's proposed new leach pad at the Drum Mine, as well as additional information on existing ground water quality at the site and conceptual closure plans that we requested for Jumbo's ground water discharge permit application.

The conceptual design of the leach pad appears to allow no intentional direct discharge to waters of the State. A draft ground water permit will be prepared and released for public comment upon review of final detailed plans and specifications for the construction of the leach pad, process ponds and other components which contain the process water which would indicate tentative approval of the plans by this Bureau.


Information submitted by Jumbo in support of its ground water discharge permit application indicates that the perched aquifer which underlies the site of the proposed leach pad has been contaminated by cyanide and contains elevated levels of arsenic and other metals. This contamination was probably caused by previous gold leaching activities at the Drum Mine and is a violation of § 26-11-8 of the Utah Water Pollution Control Act.

Jumbo Mining should take immediate action to contain the contamination and prevent its movement towards other waters of the State and develop a corrective action plan which would represent a cost-effective and permanent solution to the release. Jumbo should conduct its own investigation of this contamination and a feasibility study of possible options for containing and remediating the contaminated ground water. You are requested to provide a proposed plan for addressing the above and including appropriate milestones and accompanying time schedule.

According to information previously submitted by Jumbo, the perched aquifer flows preferentially to the southwest of the new leach pad site along fractures in the volcanic bedrock. Ground water occurs at fairly shallow depths within the area a few hundred feet southwest of the proposed leach pad site. A possible solution Jumbo may want to investigate is the construction of a trench, drain, or pumping well network in this area that would intercept the flow of contaminated ground water. Water produced by this drainage may be used by Jumbo in a permitted leach operation. If Jumbo elects to use such a system, the quality of the produced water should be monitored on a regular basis, and the analytical results reported to this Bureau.

If you have any questions on the ground water discharge permit or remediation requirements, please call Mark Novak at (801) 538-6146.

Sincerely,



Don A. Ostler, P.E., Director
Bureau of Water Pollution Control

DAO:MN:rp

cc: David Rupp, BWPC
David Hartshorn, Jumbo Mining, Delta, UT
Wayne Hedberg, Div. of Oil, Gas and Mining
Michael Jackson, Bureau of Land Management, Richfield
Central Utah District Health Dept.

Q:JUMGWREM.LTR